

From: Fred Talmadge
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:34am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I believe it is important to break up Microsoft and to separate the commercial software and operating systems into two separate companies.

When I started using computers DOS was the operating system of choice. We had several flavors of DOS including Microsoft's all a little different some better, some worse. We could then add-on to DOS with file managers and utilities in effect making the computer a truly "personal" computer.

Today that is not as easy. Not only is the browser imbedded into the operating system, but email, media players, file managers and system utilities. Even the way my directories are arranged are controlled by Microsoft, "My Documents", "My Pictures" etc all interfere with the way I want to organize my files.

I believe that having an operating system that is stripped down to it's basic functions and then embellished as the "user" sees fit from whoever they wish to do business with is the only way that we can have a personal computer in it's truest sense.

Thank-you
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